various items that come under the Spices Board?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

Central assistance to export promotion councils

765. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to terminate central assistance to the various export promotion councils in a phased manner;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for the withdrawal of annual grants to these councils; and

(c) what will be the impact of such decision on India's export promotion efforts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The decision to phase out the grant to the Export Promotion Councils was taken to make the Councils self supporting.

(c) There will be no impact on India's export promotion efforts as the Councils will become self supporting.

Export of Agricultural commodities

766. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the value of exports of agricultural commodities during the years 1984-85 to 1989-90 yearwise; with percentage growth;

(b) whether the agricultural exports are stagnating; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to boost exports of agricultural commodities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) Yearwise details of export of agricultural commodities, as also the growth achieved in exports as compared to previous year's export during the period 1984-85 to 1989-90 are given below:—

Year	Export (Rs. crores)	%Growth in exports over previous year's exports
1984 85	1163.90	— —
1985-86	1206.68	(+) 3.68%
1986-87	1539.51	(+) 27.58%
1987-88	1801.61	(+) 17.03%
1988-89	1921.47	(+) 6.65%
1989-90	2578.71	(+) 34.21%